

Youth Initiative Program

April 2006

Issue

Network Providers

MEETING REMINDER

The Youth Initiative Program will hold its next networking meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, April 20, 2006, at 5300 E. Paisano, the El Paso Housing Authority. For information call the Y.I.P. office at (915) 298-9600.



Our guest speaker will be Paul Pinon, Coordinator of the Human Trafficking Task Force, a newly created unit within the Intel Section of the EPPD.

Come learn about human trafficking, indicators, and how to report. The biggest obstacle the task force faces is identifying cases. The community can become a valuable source of information and potentially lead to the rescue of victims of this crime.



Together for Children

The EPPD will be participating in the "Together for Children" annual awareness campaign by displaying campaign ribbons on the marked units during the month of April. The campaign strives to inform and encourage active participation of child advocates in creating awareness that every child has the right for quality health, education, and a safe environment for their social, emotional and physical well being. If you would like to participate, please contact Cheryl Kelly, Association for the Benefit of Children at 592-7056.



The El Paso City Council passed an amendment to the City's Curfew Ordinance (title 10 Municipal Code). This amendment adds "Special Curfew Areas" and "Special Curfew Hours" to the existing ordinance. The amendment defines the Special Curfew areas:

Special Curfew Area "A"

1. Beginning at the intersection of Father Rahm Avenue and Santa Fe Street;
2. Proceeding south on Santa Fe Street to Loop 375 (Border Highway);
3. Proceeding east on Loop 375 (Border Highway) to Oregon Street;
4. Proceeding north on Oregon Street to Father Rahm Avenue; and
5. West on Father Rahm Avenue to the point of beginning.

Special Curfew Area "B"

1. Beginning at the intersection of Mesa Street and Seventh Avenue; and
2. Proceeding south on Mesa Street to Eighth Street; and
3. Proceeding east on Eighth Street to Kansas Street; and
4. Proceeding north on Kansas Street to Seventh Avenue; and
5. West on Seventh Avenue to the point of the beginning.

These are basically the areas around the Paso Del Norte Bridge and the Stanton Street Bridge. Special Curfew hours are defined as 7p.m. to 6a.m. In addition curfew hours for all other areas in the city remain 11p.m. The curfew applies to a person under the age of seventeen. The El Paso Police Department will continue to educate citizens about the change in the ordinance via the news media and the Departmental website.



CHILD ABUSE AWARENESS MONTH

"Making a Difference in the Life of a Child" Conference

Sponsored by Early Childhood Intervention on May 24, 2006, 7:30 AM – 5 PM, Ysleta ISD, 9600 Sims Dr. The conference will feature two inspirational speakers, Dr. Delaney, a professional who has dedicated his career to aiding those children who have suffered abuse. Dave Pelzer is a survivor of such abuse and illustrates how we can make a difference. He is the author of: A Child Called "It". Space is limited; call: 915-534-4324 or ccastro@elprc.org.



START TALKING BEFORE THEY START DRINKING

Underage Drinking Town Hall Meeting



Flier Final-EP Town Hall Meeting.doc

A community forum about underage drinking will be held on April 19th at the Camino Real Hotel downtown from 6 - 8 p.m. The public is invited. Come hear what's really happening in El Paso, and how you can make a difference. Guest speakers include Judge William Moody, Officer Greg Furr, Dr. David Palafox, and Willie Cager (door prizes include an autographed basketball from Willie Cager, TWC 1966 NCAA National Basketball Champion "Glory Road")



The American Legacy Foundation is looking for youth to be a part of Legacy's Youth Activism Council which will convene the summer of 2006 in Washington, D.C. Members will meet up to twice a year, maintain involvement in tobacco control initiatives in their home communities, and attend advocacy or speaking events periodically, "helping to create a world where young people are equipped with the facts needed to reject tobacco." The deadline for the application is April 14 and the selection process will immediately follow. Term limits are one year with an annual reapplication process. Members can participate for a maximum of two years. Contact: Erica Rachal – Youth Activism Coord. 1-800-983-9933 or <http://www.oag.stat.tx.us>



Office of the Attorney General

Crime Victims' Compensation

This financial assistance program helps eligible victims of crime with certain expenses related to the crime, such as medical/hospital, counseling, relocation assistance, loss of earnings or support, loss of wages/travel reimbursement, child care, funeral/burial expenses, crime scene clean-up, replacement costs for property seized as evidence or unusable as result of the investigation, attorney fees. Qualify: must be U.S. resident with the crime occurring in TX or a TX resident who becomes a victim in a state or country without a compensation program, an innocent victim who suffers substantial threat of physical and/or emotional harm or death; the dependent of victim, and immediate person(s) affected through assisting the victim. 1-800-983-9933 or <http://www.oag.stat.tx.us>.



The EPPD Safe Communities Program wants to remind parents of the importance of using seat belts and safety seats properly. Free classes are held weekly, by appointment only. Low-income families can also obtain a car seat for their child.

The Safe Communities Program is gearing up to host its 4th annual Spring Safety Fair on May 20, 2006 at the El Paso County Coliseum from 10 am – 3 pm. The event will have entertainment, games, and provide the community with various safety and quality of life information free to the public. Any community agency interested in participating, please contact Margaret Meraz / EPPD Safe Communities Program at 564-7352.



Annual Crime Victims' Memorial Walk

El Paso joins the National Commemoration of 2006 Crime Victims' Rights Week on April 23-29 to promote rights and services and to educate the community about the devastating and far-reaching impact to crime victims and survivors. The 5th Annual Memorial Walk will be held on Sunday, April 23, at Ascarate Park, 6900 Delta at 8:30 a.m. begins at 10 a.m.; on-site registration/t-shirt pick up begins at 8:30 a.m. Pre-register on-line at <http://www.epcounty.com/wtc/registration.htm>. The free event is a collaborative effort by community agencies and victim advocates.



The Child Crisis Center 10th Annual International Border Conference, **Home Improvement, Building Strong Foundations for Families and Children**, will be April 21 from 8:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. at the Multipurpose Recreation Center, 9031 Viscount Blvd. A wide variety of topics for professionals and parents will be offered. These workshops will be provided by Avance, Community Solutions, Child Crisis Center, ECI - Early Childhood Intervention, El Paso Independent School District, El Paso Diabetes Association, the El Paso Police Department and Texas Cooperative Extension Services. The topics range from internet crimes to juvenile diabetes. Register at: <http://www.childcrisiselp.org/events.htm>. It can be emailed to dsanchez@childcrisiselp.org or fax it to 915.562.2524. Your check or money order should be mailed to complete registration. April 10 is the conference registration deadline. Call David A. Sanchez, Child Abuse Prevention Coordinator, 562-7955.



Regional Communities Forum on Understanding Substance Abuse

Rio Grande Safe Communities in partnership with Texans Standing Tall is hosting a Regional Policy Forum focused on preventing youth substance abuse and uniting communities to shape local, regional, and state plans for environmental prevention.



Policy Forum &
Binational Conference

Community Awareness for Teens



On behalf of the EPISD Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities and the Youth Initiative Program, our thanks to the students who shared their thoughts during the Police-Student Summit on March 2nd. 350 middle school students attended the event to hear prevention messages about drugs/drinking/smoking and safety/bullying. They had an opportunity to learn about students from other schools in the county, and made new friends.

Support of the participating schools is greatly appreciated: Hillcrest, Indian Ridge, Ranchland, East Montana, Montwood, Valley View, Ensor, Ysleta, Anthony, Bethel Christian, Blessed Sacrament, Canutillo, El Paso Bridges Academy, El Paso Jewish Academy, Northeast Christian Academy, Enriquez Garcia, Rose of Sharon Christian Academy, Camino Real, St. Pius X School, Bassett, H.E. Charles Cordova, Guillen, Dr. Hornedo, Lincoln, Morehead, Richardson and Wiggs.



As one student commented, "We associated with many new students and got to know them a little better; we learned more and got motivated. It was great."

The summit was designed to enhance leadership skills. Input from student break-out sessions will be compiled and provided to schools and agencies who participated. General comments indicated the importance of listening:

"I really appreciate the city taking the time to listen to us."

".... Thanks because of this information I'm seriously thinking of leaving drugs and my gang. Now I know it's not worth it!"



Thanks to Law Enforcement:

DPS Trooper Lucila Torres,
EPPD Officers: Slade Davis,
Efrain Griego, Denise Brown,
Curtis Whitener, Maria Corona,
Michael Baranyay, Raul
Hernandez, Araceli Rosales,
Jesus Batson, Andrew
Apodaca, Paul Pacillas, and
Adrian Piña.



Special thanks to the following agencies who devoted their day to reach out to these students: The Department of State Health Services, EPISD Parental Involvement, Maximus, Teen Court/County Attorney, Rio Grande Girl Scouts, Texas National Guard Counter Drug Program, RAPP, Safe Place Program, Services to At-Risk Youth, La Fe, Tx A & M University Prevention Resource Region 10, EPPD STI, Volar Center for Independent Living, Drug Court/JPD, Life Church, New Beginnings, Spier Marketing, YWCA, Pro-Action, MADD, Community Solutions, and the Boys Scouts of America.

| High School | 2006 MARS schedule date/time | Contact: |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| Andress - Library | 4/3, 5/8 (Mon. - 1:30 p.m.) | Deborah Lunow 832-8612/fax 757-6443 dlunow@episd.org |
| Austin - Cafeteria | 4/11, 5/9 (Tue. @ 9 a.m.) | Pat Smelser 587-2500 Ext. 6065/566-7360 |
| Bel-Air - Couns. Rm. | 4/20, 5/18 (Thur. @ 8:00 a.m.) | Terry Randall 434-2042/fax 434-2174 tqhammer@yahoo.com |
| Bowie - Lounge | 4/11, 5/9 (Tue. @ 10:30 a.m.) | Linda Romero *496-8200/fax 532-1918 |
| Burges - Austin H.S. | 5/9, (Tue. @ 9 a.m.) | Victoria Foster 780-1100/fax 771-6914 vfoster@episd |
| Chapin - Library | 4/10, 5/8 (Mon. @ 8:45 a.m.) | Barbara Augustine 832-6730/fax 565-9794 bjaugust@episd.org |
| Del Valle - Library | 4/6, 5/4 (Thur. @ 9 a.m.) | Martha Campos 434-3180/fax 858-1427 |
| Eastwood - Room 209 | 4/26, 5/24 (Wed. @ 9 a.m.) | Rita Montoya 434-4136/fax 594-8014 remsonk@yahoo.com |
| El Dorado - Room A118 | 4/27 (Thur. @ 1:30 p.m.) | Mary Ann Salas 937-3200/fax 851-7820 Ext. 73306 |
| El Paso - Couns. Rm. | 4/11 (Tue. @ 9 a.m.) | Christina Soria 496-8300/532-2008 |
| Franklin - Cafeteria | 4/19, 5/17 (Wed. @ 10 a.m.) | Rita Aguilera 832-6600/fax 587-4094 rpqguile@episd.org |
| Hanks - Lounge | 4/25, 5/30 (Tue. @ 9 a.m.) | Katherine Olivas 434-5188/fax 598-4621 olivas-3@hotmail.com |
| Jefferson - Renteria Rm. | 4/14, 5/12 (Fri. @ 10:30 a.m.) | Daniel Varela 496-8010/ fax 532-2033 dvarela@episd.org |
| Parkland - Art Gallery | 4/4, 5/2 (Tue. @ 9 a.m.) | Margarita Hernandez 434-6048/fax 434/6291 |
| Riverside | 4/11, 5/9 (Tue. @ 10:30 a.m.) | Isidro Frayre, 434-7066/ fax 434-7063 kayla4592000@yahoo.com |
| Ysleta - Room 120 | 4/5, 5/3 (Wed. @ 8:30 a.m.) | Elizabeth Sanchez 434-8019/ fax 434-8027 sunyely@yahoo.com |

MARS Meetings Schedule for April/May (subject to change). For confirmation, please contact the school. Meetings are located at the high school, but include all of the feeder schools. If your agency provides health and social services, please attend.

Crimes Against Children
9600 Dyer
El Paso, Tx. 79924
915-298-9600
www.eppd.org



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Youth Initiative Program
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YIP Officer
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